

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A tool comprising:

an elongate body; and

a pair of opposing arms comprising a first arm and a second arm extending outwardly from said body, at least one of said first arm and said second arm slidably coupled to said body, each said arm comprising an inner face and an outer face, at least one of said first arm inner face and said second arm inner face comprising a plurality of teeth extending along at least one of said first arm inner face and said second arm inner face substantially from a radially outer tip of said face to said body, at least one of said first arm outer face and said second arm outer face comprising a plurality of grooves defined therein.

2. (original) A tool in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said first arm is substantially parallel to and faces said second arm.

3. (original) A tool in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said first arm inner face is between said first arm outer face and said second arm, said first and second arm inner faces each comprise a plurality of teeth.

4. (original) A tool in accordance with Claim 1 wherein each of said opposing arms is slidably coupled to said body.

5. (original) A tool in accordance with Claim 4 wherein said body comprises an axis of symmetry, each said arm is slidable along said body in a direction that is substantially parallel to said body axis of symmetry.

6. (original) A tool in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said first arm is substantially parallel to said second arm, said first and second arms are slidable along said body such that said first arm remains substantially parallel to said second arm.

7. (original) A tool in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising a collar configured to couple to said body.

8. (original) A tool in accordance with Claim 7 wherein said collar limits an amount of travel of at least one of said first arm and said second arm.

9. (original) A tool in accordance with Claim 7 wherein said collar is further configured to threadingly couple with at least one of said first arm and said second arm.

10. (original) A tool in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said first and second arms each comprise a coupling portion and a gripping portion, each said coupling portion is configured to couple each said arm to said body, each said gripping portion extends from said coupling portion and has a substantially triangular cross-sectional profile.

11. (original) A tool in accordance with Claim 10 wherein said plurality of grooves extend from said gripping portion to a tip of said coupling portion.

12. (original) A tool in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said plurality of grooves are substantially parallel.

13. (original) A tool in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said first arm outer face and said second arm outer face each comprise a plurality of grooves defined therein.

14. (currently amended) A rescue tool for use with emergency extrications from a structure, said tool comprising:

a shaft comprising a centerline axis; and

a pair of opposing arms comprising a first arm and a second arm, at least one of said first arm and said second arm is slidably coupled to said ~~body~~ shaft and is moveable along said shaft in a direction substantially parallel to said shaft centerline axis, each said arm comprises an inner face and an outer face, at least one of said first arm inner face and said second arm inner face comprising a plurality of teeth extending along at least one of said first arm inner face and second arm inner face, said plurality of teeth extend substantially from a radially outer tip of said face to said shaft, at least one of said first arm outer face and said second arm outer face comprising a plurality of grooves defined therein, at least one of said first arm and said second arm extends substantially perpendicularly outward from said shaft.

15. (original) A rescue tool in accordance with Claim 14 wherein each said arm inner face comprises a plurality of teeth.

16. (currently amended) A rescue tool in accordance with Claim 14 wherein said ~~plurality~~ plurality of grooves are defined across each said arm outer face.

17. (original) A rescue tool in accordance with Claim 14 wherein said first arm is substantially parallel to said second arm.

18. (original) A rescue tool in accordance with Claim 14 wherein each said arm is slidably coupled to said shaft and moveable in a direction substantially parallel to said shaft centerline axis.

19. (original) A rescue tool in accordance with Claim 14 wherein each said arm is slidably coupled to said shaft and movable such that said first arm remains substantially parallel to said second arm.

20. (original) A rescue tool in accordance with Claim 14 wherein each said arm comprises a coupling portion and a gripping portion, each said coupling portion for coupling each said arm to said shaft, each said gripping portion extending outwardly from each said coupling portion and having a substantially triangular cross-sectional profile.

21. (original) A rescue tool in accordance with Claim 20 wherein said plurality of grooves extend from said gripping portion to a tip of said coupling portion.

22. (original) A tool in accordance with Claim 14 wherein said plurality of grooves are substantially parallel.

23. (original) A rescue tool in accordance with Claim 14 further comprising a collar configured to couple with said shaft and to at least one of said first arm and said second arm.

24. (original) A rescue tool in accordance Claim 23 wherein said collar is further configured to threadingly couple with at least one of said first arm and said second arm.

25. (original) A rescue tool in accordance with Claim 23 wherein said collar is further configured to limit an amount of travel of at least one of said first arm and said second arm.

26. (currently amended) A method of emergency extrication from a structure with a rescue tool, said method comprising:

providing a rescue tool including a body and a pair of arms coupled to the body and extending outwardly from the body, wherein at least one of the pair of arms includes an inner face including a plurality of teeth extending along the inner face substantially from the body to the tip of the arm, and an outer face including a plurality of grooves defined therein;

positioning the rescue tool adjacent the structure such that at least one of the pair of arms is positioned such that the plurality of grooves contacts the structure; and

performing the emergency extrication from the structure.

27. (currently amended) A method in accordance with ~~Claim 30~~ Claim 26 wherein positioning the rescue tool further comprises slidably adjusting a position of at least one of the arms with respect to the tool body, such that the arm is moved in a direction that is substantially parallel to an axis of symmetry of the tool body.

28. (currently amended) A method in accordance with ~~with Claim 30~~ Claim 26 wherein positioning the rescue tool further comprises slidably adjusting a position of at least one of the arms with respect to the tool body, such that the arms remain substantially parallel with respect to each other, and remain substantially perpendicular with respect to the tool body.

29. (currently amended) A method in accordance with ~~with Claim 30~~ Claim 26 wherein positioning the rescue tool further comprises slidably adjusting a position of each arm respect to the tool body, such each arm is moved in a direction that is substantially parallel to an axis of symmetry of the tool body.

30. (currently amended) A method in accordance with ~~with Claim 30~~ Claim 26 wherein positioning the rescue tool further comprises adjusting a position of at least one arm using a collar that is coupled to the tool body and to the arm being repositioned.

31. (currently amended) A method in accordance with ~~with Claim 30~~ Claim 26 wherein positioning the rescue tool further comprises limiting an amount of travel of at least one arm by adjusting a collar coupled to the tool body and to at least one arm.

32. (currently amended) A method in accordance with ~~with Claim 30~~ Claim 26 wherein performing the extrication from the structure further comprises increasing a distance between the pair of arms such that at least a portion of the structure is forcibly moved by the rescue tool.